

RECOGNIZING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON ITS 101ST ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Double Ten Day, the National day of the Republic of China. On October 10th, Taiwan will celebrate the 101st anniversary of China's military Wuchang Uprising, the start of the Xinhai Revolution, which led to the collapse of the Qing Dynasty, the end of 2,000 years of imperial rule in China and ushered in the Republican Era.

By the end of the 1683 century, Ching rulers governed all of China. After the first three emperors, the Ching Court began to decline, becoming weak and corrupt. In response, a group of national capitalists began inciting uprisings. One of the leaders of this nationalistic group, Sun Yat-sen, spent much of his youth in the United States and wanted a Western-style government for his country with a parliament and separation of powers. After the success of the uprisings, Sun Yat-sen became the first president of the Republic of China, a post from where he promoted the idea of a democratic society. Dr. Sun is now remembered as the father of modern China.

When the Republic of China lost control over the mainland in 1942, the government retreated to Taiwan where its constitution remains in command today. Taiwan is an exemplary standard of civil, liberal government in East Asia, and the Republic of China has stood shoulder to shoulder with the United States to defend and promote the very values and ideals that inspired Dr. Sun and founded the Republic all those years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I thus urge my colleagues to acknowledge the Founding Father Sun Yat-Sen and his vision to a democratic China, and join me in congratulating the Republic of China in Taiwan on its 101st anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 585–586. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted “yes” on 585 and “no” on 586.

IN HONOR OF KEVIN QUIGLEY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Kevin Quigley, outgoing President of the National Peace Corps Association. After nine years at the NPCA, Kevin is moving on to serve as Peace Corps Country Director in Thailand, the country where he served as a Volunteer from 1976–1979.

Kevin's dedication to the Peace Corps community is evident in the legacy he leaves be-

hind at the NPCA. Under his leadership, the association launched new programs designed to connect Returned Peace Corps Volunteers to schools and community groups in the United States that are interested in learning more about Peace Corps, established a mentoring program to assist volunteers returning from overseas service, and provided alumni with continued service learning travel opportunities to Peace Corps countries. Kevin also guided the NPCA into the digital age with the Africa Rural Connect Program, which provides an online platform allowing global collaboration to advance small-scale agricultural development initiatives in rural Africa, and NPCA Twitter Chat, a weekly online gathering of the Peace Corps community to discuss how to address key issues of the day.

Kevin brought a unique skill set to the NPCA, drawing from his experience as Senator John Heinz's Legislative Director, staff member at the Office of Management and Budget, and Vice Chairman of USAID's Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Assistance. He also served as Acting CEO of the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, Executive Director of the Global Alliance for Workers and Communities, and Vice President of Policy and Business at the Asia Society.

And uniting many of Kevin's diverse abilities is his commitment to volunteerism. In addition to his Peace Corps service, Kevin played a founding role in the formation of the Building Bridges Coalition, a consortium of more than 200 leading organizations working collaboratively to promote the field of international volunteering.

Mr. Speaker, while I will miss collaborating with Kevin at the NPCA, I wish him the very best in his ongoing service to our country. Peace Corps Thailand is lucky to have him.

IN HONOR OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, on Taiwan's National Day (October 10, 2012), I am pleased to take this opportunity to wish the leaders and people of Taiwan many happy returns. I look forward to continued bi-lateral relations between Taiwan and the United States of America.

Also, I would like to bid a personal farewell to Taiwan Ambassador, Mr. Jason Yuan. He has been reassigned as Taiwan's Secretary-General of the National Security Council. During his last four years in Washington, DC, Ambassador Yuan has been instrumental in fostering the strong relationship between the Taiwanese people and the Government of the United States. I wish Ambassador Yuan and his family best wishes and a smooth transition in his new position, and I thank him for his service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE ALBANIAN CULTURAL GARDEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the dedication of the Albanian Cultural Garden, taking place on September 22, 2012.

The 254 acre piece of land that constitutes Rockefeller Park was donated to the City of Cleveland by John D. Rockefeller in 1896. The Cleveland Croatian Cultural Garden is a two acre piece of land within Rockefeller Park. The Cleveland Cultural Gardens were founded in 1926 to create a memorial area for the diverse ethnic groups that shape the region, and to serve as a space for reflection on peace, cooperation and understanding. The Cultural Gardens are currently a collection of more than 30 gardens which include African-American, American Indian, British, Chinese, Czech, Estonian, and Slovenian gardens, among others.

The planning and construction of the Albanian Cultural Garden started in 2007. Legislation sponsoring its dedication was spearheaded by Cleveland City Councilwoman Dona Brady. Members of the Albanian American Association of Cleveland, Ohio, Albanian Cultural Garden Committee, Jim McKnight and Kreshnik Xhiku were instrumental in creating the Albanian Cultural Garden.

The dedication of the Albanian Cultural Garden will occur on September 22, 2012. In addition to inaugurating the Albanian Cultural Garden, it will also commemorate the 100th year of Albanian Independence and dedicate the Mother Teresa memorial statue. Special guests of the dedication will include Albanian President, Bujar Nishani; Albanian Ambassador, Gilbert Galanxhi; Mayor Baftjar Zeqaj; and Mary, Mariano and Christian Gannon.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the dedication of the Albanian Cultural Garden.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lincoln High School, in Tacoma, WA, for its many achievements over the almost one hundred years it has been open, and to congratulate all who work and study at Lincoln as they prepare to celebrate the school's 100th anniversary.

Lincoln High School accepted its first students in 1914. Since then, the teachers at Lincoln have educated thousands who would go on to graduate, and the school has supported many of its students by raising scholarship funds for future graduates. In the coming year, Lincoln High School hopes to raise \$100,000 in scholarship money to celebrate their centennial anniversary. This year's fundraising will build upon the successes during the school's 75th anniversary, when \$75,000 was raised to